

A WORLD WOMAN DESCRIBES SAD SCENES IN THE HOME LIFE OF THE STRIKING MINERS.

Terrible Tyranny of Petty Despots of the Mine Region.

Roofs Which Do Not Keep Out the Rain--Hovels for Homes.

NO. VI. OF THE SERIES.

BY OLIVIA HOWARD DUNBAR.

THE BIRTH OF A MINER'S CHILD.

(Special to The Evening World.)

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Sept. 21.—The fighting spirit is strong in Shamokin, and this in the face of conditions so adverse as to make self-assertion almost a mockery.

"I will eat grass before I will consent to my husband yielding!" was the stand taken by the first Shamokin woman I met.

Shamokin is almost completely tied up. There are ten thousand strikers here and in the vicinity, and I believe they are more resolute and united than in any other centre of the anthracite region.

And so strong is the sympathy between the miners and their wives that I am disposed to think this magnificent defiance WAS BORN IN THE HEARTS OF THE WOMEN.

That men and women robbed of ordinary human rights and privileges should dare to take this sublime stand against injustice, and face the consequences, is almost incredible.

TYRANNY OF COAL DESPOTS.

Yet I learned by talking with such women as Mrs. John Quinn that it is not only the published list of grievances, and the scanty pay, that have brought such misery here, but that the PETTY WRONGS INFLICTED BY THOSE UNRESTRAINED DESPOTS, THE INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS AND THE SMALL COMPANIES, HAVE BEEN ALMOST BEYOND ENDURANCE.

Mrs. Quinn is an intelligent woman, with even more judgment, perhaps, and acumen and poise than you will find in the ordinary woman of comfortable means.

In her case, as in the majority that I have noticed, misfortune and poverty have not dulled her homely sense. Her surroundings are no less painful to her because familiar.

The wife of the English-speaking miner MAY BECOME A PAUPER, BUT SHE NEVER BECOMES A SLOVEN.

Mrs. Quinn was preparing some cabbage for dinner in the room that was kitchen and living room. The room was dark, damp and ill-smelling, though it was plain that great pains had been taken to sweep it and brighten the few bits that stood about.

In the room beyond was a bed. On it lay Mrs. Quinn's bedridden mother and a tiny human being wrapped in a shawl.

"That's my baby," said Mrs. Quinn. "He's four days old. There are not many comforts waiting for a miner's baby when it comes into the world."

HOW A MINER'S BABY WAS BORN.

"This little fellow was born last Saturday night. There was a frightful tempest, when the lightning seemed about to rip open the mountains, and a great wind swept through the valley, and after it there was a long, cold rain."

"Do you see that ceiling? Can you imagine how the rain would pour through on my new-born baby lying on that very bed?"

"In the worst of the rain my husband climbed to the roof and tried to mend it, for it nearly broke his heart to see the rain coming in so. But it can't be mended. He's often tried it before."

"Oh, we do our best. The Union Coal Company owns this house. FOR OUR ROOMS WE PAY \$4.50 RENT A MONTH. IT IS THIRTY YEARS SINCE THE ROOF HAS BEEN REPAIRED."

"Last March I went to the Superintendent and begged that he repair it. He barely listened."

"When hot weather comes," he finally said.

"A month ago my husband went to him and asked him if he would mend the roof."

"No, I won't," he said.

"It was what he meant the first time."

NO CRADLE; RAINING THROUGH ROOF.

John Quinn is a striker, and a determined one. The little money that he has he is hoarding carefully. THERE ARE NO LITTLE DRESSES FOR THE FOUR-DAYS-OLD BABY, NO CRADLES FOR IT TO LIE IN, NOT EVEN A DRY ROOF TO COVER IT; nor, indeed, are there stout walls to close it in, for newspapers are put up where plaster should be.

And in this fashion a miner's baby was born!

The gift of life that had been thrust upon the poor little mite that lay wrapped in a shawl, seemed the least enviable that could be imagined.

Doubtless he will think so when he gets "big enough to carry a pail," which is the criterion by which a boy's fitness for work is determined. And a miner's child learns to carry a pail very young.

I saw one this morning who did not look big enough to be admitted to the most juvenile ball team. He was about the right size to be comfortably towed along by a nurse. I was told that he had been a breaker boy a year and a half.

On "Fiddler's Green," on which stands the wretched group of hovels of which Mrs. Quinn's is by no means in the most urgent need of repair, I visited several Hungarian and Polish homes.

WHERE ROOFS DO NOT PROTECT.

Not one of these houses had a roof that afforded any real protection, and the window panes were either missing altogether or patched up with rags. Yet there have been frosts for several nights past, and there is a warning of winter in the air.

The women here could speak but a few fragments of English, but their gestures were eloquent when the strike was mentioned.

"WE STARVE," SAID ONE OF THEM, POINTING TO A HALF LOAF OF BREAD THAT STOOD ON THE TABLE, "BUT WE STRIKE!"

It is easy to predict a victory for labor in the face of such scenes as this.

The gratitude of the miners' families when they learn that their side, as well as the other, in the great war is to be presented fairly, is touching. They do not expect or claim from the public even such "recognition" as is implied in a fair statement.

"Will you really tell the truth about our homes and our condition?" eagerly asked a group of women whom I found in "Stable Row"—an inappropriate designation, inasmuch as no mine operator would keep his horses in such quarters, however greedily he may tax the miners for their tenancy.

They had been led to think the truth on this subject both unsafe and unwelcome. That the great outside world of every-day people, with enough to eat and to wear, and with books to read and pleasant things to look at, should have a thought for their undeserved wretchedness, is a suggestion that impresses them profoundly.

NOT REGARDED AS MEN.

One of the women explained this to me. "The people who come here to see us," she said, "do not look at us as human beings, but as something between beasts and men. They don't see

OVERHEARD IN HAZLETON.

VOTE FOR MCKINLEY AND



HE IS THE MORTAL FOE OF ALL TRUSTS



"Say, Annie, ain't he the feller pa voted for the last time?"

that we're Americans, and citizens, and that we work hard and live honestly. "And when we ask for decent homes to live in and enough to feed and clothe our children, and for a fair and square relation between operators and the men, they say:

"Hus! Anarchy!"

"WE ARE NOT USED TO BEING REGARDED AS SELF-RESPECTING MEN AND WOMEN, THAT'S ALL."

Of a great many of the women here in Shamokin I asked:

"What shall you do when supplies give out?" And I found that nowhere did yielding figure in their list of resources.

One, a thin, wiry Irishwoman, who told me that her name was Mrs. Flynn, said with an emphasis that left no doubt that she meant it:

"What shall I do to live? Well, borrow, perhaps; and after that—God knows!"

EARN 90 CENTS A DAY!

NINETY CENTS A DAY I FIND TO BE, IN SHAMOKIN ALSO, THE AVERAGE LIVING WAGE. Testimony on this point did not vary. The company stores flourish, and are bitterly abhorred by the women who are forced to patronize them.

But here, too, a citizen apparently well informed is likely to tell you that the company stores do not exist. It requires a little effort to discover the miners' home conditions, and this the ordinary citizen in the mining town spares himself.

All the miners' wives have a good word to say for "Mother Jones." She has helped them to hold their courage fast and they believe in her. Indeed, any well-meaning woman, and there must be professional philanthropists to whom this term applies, could do a wonderful work among this outcast people.

The only necessary qualifications would be leisure and a kind heart. OLIVIA HOWARD DUNBAR.

TO-MORROW Miss Dunbar will write from Mt. Carmel, Pa., on "WOMEN AS THE LEADERS OF THE STRIKE."

MINERS ASK ONLY JUSTICE.

(By John Sullivan, Secretary of the United Miners' Association.)

The stories told by Miss Dunbar are enough to arouse every workingman to anger. Those who are active in organized labor have more or less knowledge of the conditions to which the coal barons have reduced the men in the mines, but these truthful articles tell the story to the rest of the public, and their effect should be beneficial. The miners have suffered many years, while the operators have grown rich. Miss Dunbar's articles in The Evening World show how the miner has been trodden down. Now they are organized, and with public opinion on their side they ought to get justice. Justice is all they ask for.

John Sullivan

WOULD ANGER A SAINT.

(By D. W. C. Cammeyer, Treasurer of Photo Engravers' Union No. 1.)

Miss Dunbar's work is a revelation to the general public, and its good effect upon public opinion—that public opinion which compels action—should be to the benefit of the half-starved miners. Her tone is temperate, yet the scenes she describes are enough to warm the temper of a saint. We in this country ought to have got beyond the stage where every member of a family must work to provide for the family. If a few more women like her would take hold of this work in the same spirit and with the same pluck and determination the disgrace would come to a speedy end.

D. W. C. Cammeyer

HE KNOWS! WAS BLACKLISTED.

I am a young man and worked in the coal mines for twelve years at the Maltby mines, operated by the Lehigh Valley Company. I began work at the age of nine and worked in and about the mines until I was twenty-one, when I was blacklisted under that company, and I think it was the best thing that ever happened to me. That is three years ago. I was discharged for being one of the committee for the drivers, who objected to working from 7 A. M. till 7 P. M. for eight or nine hours' pay. I appreciate Miss Dunbar's work very much and I can stand by her. What she has written is the truth and there is a great deal more to be added to it. I know what it is to be a miner, to say nothing of his hardships and danger at work. E. R. 593 East One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street, New York.

10,000 MORE IDLE; TEN COLLIERIES CLOSE DOWN.

(Continued from First Page.)

Lithuanians and Poles armed with clubs and stones. They smashed windows and other mine property.

It was with difficulty that Supt. Baird and a posse of men prevented numbers of the strikers from entering the slope at the Kehley Run.

The streets of Shenandoah were crowded by strikers and others who were drawn to the scene. A trolley car was held up and eleven men were roughly handled. Some of them were thrown out of the door.

Among the passengers were William Evans, Samuel Davis and William Wagner, all of Shenandoah. They were on their way to work. Chief Burgess Brown, of Shenandoah, in rescuing his son from the hands of the strikers was himself beaten.

The strikers policed every path and road to the collieries and they, by threats, intimidated workmen and thus induced them to return to their homes. Much excitement exists. Daniel Christian, chief of the coal and iron police, stated this morning that his force is unequal to the task of guarding the collieries.

10,000 MORE IDLE.

Ten Collieries of the Reading Closed Down To-Day in Shenandoah District.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21.—General Supt. Lather, of Fottsville, today telegraphed President Harris, of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, that ten more of the thirty-four working collieries of

Here, was shot early this morning by an unknown person as he was patrolling the colliery.

The bullet entered his left side, inflicting a serious if not fatal wound. Davis saw a man run toward the engine house and before he fell to the ground from exhaustion he fired six shots at the fleeing assassin, but none of the bullets apparently took effect.

The colliery is an isolated place and Davis was compelled to crawl one mile on his hands and knees before he could procure aid at a mine house.

MITCHELL NOT HERE.

Report that Miners' President is to Confer with Operators Denied by Companies.

The report from Hazleton, Pa., that President Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers, had left there to confer with the big operators in this city could not be confirmed in the local offices of the big anthracite companies today.

At the offices of the Delaware and Hudson Company, at 21 Cortlandt street, President R. M. Olyphant, who has agreed to meet Archbishop Ryan, of Philadelphia, as a representative of the miners, said he had heard nothing of President Mitchell coming to New York. He had refused to meet Mr. Mitchell in a conference, but was willing to state the position of the operators to Archbishop Ryan.

President W. H. Truesdell, of the Delaware and Lackawanna Company, said he had no intimation of Mitchell coming and would pay no attention to him.

OPERATORS DEFIANT.

Will Never Recognize the Union If a Pound of Coal is Not Mined All Winter.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 21.—The coal operators issued this statement today:

"The report sent out from Hazleton that the operators will surrender rather than lose a big Winter's trade is misleading. The operators have made up their minds that they will not recognize the miners' union if a pound of coal is not mined all Winter."

"The issue is not so much a question of wages as it is the recognition of the union. The operators of the anthracite region can never consent to have a lot of bituminous men run their business."

"In the first place the bituminous men know nothing about the conditions governing the anthracite trade. And in the second place it would mean ruin for the anthracite interests if the soft-coal men were in a position to nominate the anthracite trade."

WEST END TIED UP.

Last Mine in Wyoming and Lackawanna Valleys is Closed by Strikers.

SERANTON, Pa., Sept. 21.—President Nicholas, of District No. 1, informed strike headquarters here this afternoon that the West End Coal Company's mine at Mocanaqua, which has resisted the efforts of the strikers to close it, was tied up at noon.

This makes complete the suspension in the Wyoming and Lackawanna valleys.

PAY NOT INCREASED.

Reading People Declare that Wages of Miners Have Not Been Raised.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 21.—An absolute denial was made today by General Manager Henderson that the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company had increased its wages to the mine employees 10 per cent.

CASPERFELD & CLEVELAND

144 BOWERY, "Bowery Savings Bank Block," East Broadway and Grand Sts. North of Grand St., Station, west side of street.



Uptown jewellers charge exorbitant prices for wedding rings, simply because of the sentiment connected with it. We sell our 14 and 18 karat seamless Wedding Rings by weight—no fancy profits. No extra charge for engraving.

Watch Bargains. Ladies' Watch—Solid 14-kt. gold throughout, hunting case, Waltham or Elgin movement, \$10.00.

Gentlemen's Watch—Solid 14-kt. gold throughout, hunting case, Waltham or Elgin movement, \$18. Open Evenings till 7: Saturdays till 10. Send for illustrated circular of bargains.

CANDY SPECIAL SALE.

LEMON and ORANGE FRUIT BONBONS, On Friday only, 10c.

CHOCOLATE WALNUT PUDDING, On Saturday only, 10c.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY.

BUTTER PEANUT BRITTLE, 10c.

FRENCH PEPPER MINT CHOCOLATES, 10c.

ASSORTED FRUIT and NUT CHOCOLATES, 15c.

CREAMED WALNUTS, old-fashioned style, 19c.

HIGH-GRADE BONBONS and CHOCOLATES or ALL CHOCOLATES, 24c.

TOASTED MARSHMALLOWS, 25c.

Any of the above goods sent by mail. Add 20 cents to each pound for postage.

Lost 54 BARCLAY ST. COAT WEST END. AT 29 CORTLANDT ST. COR CHURCH.

Lost, Found and Rewards.

LOST: Brindle bull terrier dog, white feet; red band, T. L. No. 4, 6 East 125th St. REWARD for the recovery of body of Harry Miles, 15 years old, drowned in Toms River, N. J. Address Mrs. M. A. Meyer, Belton, N. J.

Lawyers.

DIVORCES. Ed. Collins, Attorney, Lower Broadway, ROBINSON, 25 Nassau St., N. Y.

Hi There, Chappies! You Can Trust Autumn Days!

READ MARY MORRIS'S "A MYSTERY OF THE BOWERY." Will begin in next Monday's Evening World.

WORLD WANTS Butcher's the Public and hold their attention for a little while—just long enough to suit the purpose of the advertiser. They get Help for the Help-Seekers and they get Jobs for the Situation Seekers.

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The Fashionable Oxford Gray Vicuna

FALL OVERCOATS

Serge lined, silk sleeve linings and velvet collars; also Plain and Fancy Patterned

FALL WEIGHT SUITS,

\$10.00

Swagger Raglans, Top Coats and Chesterfield Fall Overcoats.

Superbly tailored and silk lined throughout.

Also Exclusive Patterns in High Class Custom Tailored

SACK SUITS,

with choice of single or double breasted vests,

\$15.00

The New Department offers our own brand fancy patterned Shirts, in exquisite designs and colorings, at \$1.

The Famous "Manhattan" Shirts at \$1.50.

Rich Silk Neckwear, worth a Dollar, at 50c.

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Opposite City Hall Park, Just Below Murray St.